

Agriculture & Extension Education Committee
May 11, 2006
Minutes

Committee members present: Wilbur Petroskey, Tom Rudolph, Paul Dean, and Guy Hansen. John Potters (excused)

Others present: Dan Kuzlik, Patricia McGee, Jim Winkler, Jim Kumbera, and Kerri Ison.

Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 12:30 p.m. by Chairman Wilbur Petroskey.

Approval of agenda: Motion by Guy Hansen/Tom Rudolph to approve today's agenda with permission to change the order of the day.

Approval of minutes: Motion by Paul Dean/Guy Hansen to approve the minutes of April 12, 2006. Discussion followed. Motion approved with corrections. Wilbur Petroskey requested the office send Peter Wolk a certificate of appreciation for serving on our Committee.

Date of future meeting(s):

June 13, 2006 1 p.m. Extension meeting room

OCEDC report: Motion by Guy Hansen/Tom Rudolph to enter into closed session under WI Stats Sec. Sec. 19.85(1)(e) deliberating or negotiating the purchase of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session. OCEDC report. Roll call vote: Rudolph-aye; Hansen-aye; Dean-aye; Petroskey-aye. All present were allowed to participate in closed session. Motion by Tom Rudolph/Guy Hansen to return to open session. Roll call vote: Rudolph-aye; Hansen-aye; Dean-aye; Petroskey-aye.

Fair Subcommittee report: MaryAnn Huebner is dealing with health issues and John Coyle was unable to attend. Wilbur Petroskey reported one person has shown interest in the secretary position but no decision has been made. Tom Wiensch, Assistant Corporation Counsel is currently working on the contracts.

Monthly invoices for Oneida Count Fair: Motion by Guy Hansen/Paul Dean to approve the monthly invoices for the Oneida County Fair. All ayes; motion carried.

Monthly budget report: Motion by Guy Hansen/Tom Rudolph to approve the monthly budget report as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Monthly invoices: Motion by Tom Rudolph/Paul Dean to approve the monthly invoices as presented. All ayes; motion carried. Motion by Tom Rudolph/Guy Hansen to approve the blanket purchase orders as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Community Garden update: Toni Rogers reported plants are growing in the first community garden site (Robinson Garden past Pelican School 1/3 mile on left -- 4436 Hwy P). The lease agreement has been signed for the larger garden at Phoenix Villa and work continues with the insurance agent on specific coverage. The Rhinelander Area Food Pantry and Rhinelander Area Community Garden received a joint grant in the amount of \$1,000 from Mid-Wisconsin Bank who seemed very interested in the Community Garden. The group is getting ready for groundbreaking at Phoenix Villa site and compost is due to be delivered soon. Guy Hansen reported the fence at the Phoenix Villa site should be erected in early June with the help of the McNaughton crew. Discussion followed. The mission of garden is to grow low cost food, improve the diets of food pantry recipients and provide a cost break for the Pantry by not having to purchase the same volume of canned goods during the summer months. Rudolph felt recipients should have some stake in the project as well, perhaps by working at the garden. Rogers noted that the group is working toward the goal of having folks work their own plots, but needed to make soil improvements and get better organized this first year. Lengthy discussion followed.

Inventors' & Entrepreneurs' Club update: Dan Kuzlik reported the initial meeting was held recently with over 45 self-identified inventors/entrepreneurs attending. There is now a mailing list of 70 interested people who will be invited to attend an organizational meeting on May 23rd at 6 p.m. at the Job Center. Those involved will determine meeting dates, times, places and programming. Kuzlik submitted a grant to the Department of Commerce and received some funding for the Club. He also urged other extension agents involved in the project to do the same and they also received funding. There is now \$5,000 in "seed money" for the regional I & E Group to get started. Kuzlik considers this endeavor a form of economic development giving young people vision and possibilities to stay at "home" and "grow their own" business. Discussion followed.

Main Street Program update: Dan Kuzlik reported Rhinelander has been unofficially selected as a Main Street program recipient and the group is moving forward. The Extension Office is helping to handle the search for a Main Street Coordinator and Kuzlik is serving as chair of the search committee. The position has been publicized locally, in the larger regional cities and information is also located on the Extension office's website. Funding for the position comes from the BID. Discussion followed.

TAG update: Jim Winker reported the Buildings & Grounds Committee turned down the request to revamp the County Board room for the Teens Active in Government (TAG) project due to space constraints and cost. Discussion followed. Paul Dean reported some members of that committee felt youth could participate from the audience, were uncomfortable with the youth being able to vote and asked Winkler to come back with another proposal with little or no cost attached.

Winkler recommended waiting until the June County Board meeting to present a proposal as he would still like to have youth within the "circle", not in the audience.

Discussion followed. Suggestions included bringing in with chairs as close as possible to the circle or adding a table near the flag (front corner of the room) as audience seating defeats the purpose of the program. Wilbur Petroskey suggested contacting Buildings & Grounds to supply a table and chairs from their inventory. Discussion followed.

Guy Hanson felt youth could partner with their county board representative as a mentor to make their experience better. Jim Winkler reiterated the program's intent is to be educational and, through the interview process, felt the county board representative sitting the interview team would become the youth's mentor. The hope is to grow active citizens who become civically engaged in adulthood. Lengthy discussion followed.

Jim Winkler felt reimbursement for mileage is going to be an issue since it hasn't been budgeted for this year. Lengthy discussion followed and it was felt that perhaps grants or donations could help fund the program. Winkler confirmed funding from State 4-H for \$500, but it cannot be used for furniture. Committee members felt civic club donations could go a long way, not only monetarily but by showing community support of the program. It was also felt the schools or booster clubs might be able to contribute as well.

After much discussion it was felt there is still "homework" to be done. The Committee directed Winkler to revise the TAG program proposal to include the mentoring aspect and to seek additional funding from civic organizations in the community.

Motion by Guy Hansen/Tom Rudolph requesting the Buildings and Grounds Department find a way to seat three students, separate from the County Board circle and separate from the audience with their own microphone, using existing surplus furniture. Discussion followed. All ayes; motion carried.

Plat book update: The Leader's Association has sent payment to Rockford Map Company, purchasing 500 new plat books which should be delivered around June 1st. The cover design is a 4-H insignia with local photos. The book will also include a 4-H promotional ad. Cost will be \$30 for general public.

WACEC Annual Meeting: Kerri Ison indicated Committee members should have received a registration packet in their mail for the WACEC Annual Meeting to be held in Oshkosh June 25-27, 2006. Registrations are due in on May 24th. Guy Hansen, Tom Rudolph, Wilbur Petroskey and Dan Kuzlik expressed interest in attending. Ison requested registration forms by May 15th and will take care of registrations and room reservations.

Out-of-county travel:

Ison/Sipple

June 7, 2006

Horticulture Inquiry Workshop

Wausau*

Kuzlik:

June 25-27, 2006 WACEC Annual Conference Oshkosh*

Winkler:

May 10, 2006	State Committee Meeting	Mosinee**
June 19, 2006	Take 4-H'ers State 4-H Conference	Medford*
June 22, 2006	Pickup 4-H'ers from Conference	Medford*
June 28-29, 2006	Teach @ MN 4-H Camp	Anoka, MN*

McGee:

May 8, 2006 Poverty Workshop Superior*

Committee members:

June 25-27, 2006 WACEC Annual Conference Oshkosh*

*county expense

**district/state expense

Motion by Tom Rudolph/Guy Hansen to approve the out-of-county travel requests as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Agent reports: Toni Rogers reported the WNEP program budget increased \$36,000 from 2006 budget. For the county's in-kind and space donation, \$234,000 in grant funding will be generated in the county.

Public comment: None.

Items for next agenda: TAG, WNEP contract.

Adjournment: Motion by Tom Rudolph/Paul Dean at 3:20 p.m. All ayes; motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kerri Ison
Recording Secretary

Wilbur Petroskey, Chair